Sask milk

Newsletter
December 2016

'Tis the Season for Charitable Giving

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The dairy industry understands the importance of food security and a good nutrition for everyone, and at this time of year there are always questions about how to help. To assist anyone who would like to give in an area that is directly related to feeding those in need, we are providing the following information:

Saskatoon Food Bank
The Saskatoon Food Bank has a vision of a food secure community, where all people have access to safe, affordable, and nutritious food. They also run the 'Milk for Children' and 'Infant health' program that rely heavily on distributing milk. Donation information can be found at http://www.saskatoonfoodbank.org/donate/ OR let SaskMilk do the work for you – see the 'Did You Know?' below!

Regina Food Bank
The Regina Food Bank and its 123 partner agencies received over 98,000 requests for service last year, and is committed to long term solutions to poverty, hunger, and food insecurity. Donation information can be found at https://reginafoodbank.ca/donate/ OR let SaskMilk do the work for you – see the 'Did You Know?' below!

Did You Know? ...that you can direct SaskMilk to deduct an amount from your milk cheque to be given directly to the food bank? It's true! We do all the work for you – your donation is deducted from your cheque and sent to the Food Bank. If you are interested in setting up a donation amount of your choice, simply contact Dianne Cardinal at the office at #306-721-9489 or Dianne.cardinal@saskmilk.ca.

Friendship Inn, Saskatoon
Vulnerable people find safe sanctuary at the Saskatoon Friendship Inn, a community centre that evolved from a soup kitchen. At the Inn, they provide 100-200 breakfasts and 400-1000 lunches every day! Donation information can be found at http://friendshipinn.ca/donations/donation-info/

Soul's Harbour Rescue Mission, Regina
Soul's Harbour provides emergency help such as food, clothing, and shelter. Their soup kitchen provides more than 200 supper meals each and every day! Donation information can be found at https://www.shrmsk.com/get-involved/donate/

Please note the holiday hours for the SaskMilk office as follows:

Friday, December 23rd	**8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**
Monday, December 26th	**Office closed**
Tuesday, December 27th	**Office closed**
Wednesday, December 28th	**8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**
Thursday, December 29th	**8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**
Friday, December 30th	**8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**
Monday, January 2nd	**Office closed**

Young Farmers Opportunity

SaskMilk would like to give young producers exposure to National policies and strategies, and send two representatives to the Dairy Farmers of Canada (DFC) Policy Conference in Ottawa on February 6-8, 2017.

All costs will be covered (registration, flight, hotel, meals). If someone from your producer unit is interested in attending, please submit your name and contact information, including your producer #, by email to info@saskmilk.ca or fax 306-949-2605 by Friday, January 6, 2017 at 4:30 p.m.

Reminder!

The deadline date for Quota Transfer, Quota Exchange, Lease Applications, and 10% Transfer Limit Exemptions is the 6th of each month

Your Quota Transfer, Lease, and 10% Exemption Applications must be received on or before the 6th of the month in order to be effective the 1st of the following month

Quota Exchange forms must be received in the SaskMilk office on or before the 6th of the month for that month's Exchange

If you have any questions please contact Bev Solie at #306-721-9488

Horned Cattle

- by Chad MacPherson, General Manager, Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association

The Horned Cattle Purchases Act (HCPA) was introduced to Saskatchewan in 1939 to encourage cattle producers to dehorn animals in order to reduce injuries and bruising occurrences during transportation and marketing. The penalty was set in legislation at $1 per head and amended in 1949 to increase to $2 per head, where it stands today.

The Government of Saskatchewan introduced a bill during the spring session of the Legislature to repeal horned cattle legislation in Saskatchewan. The Ministry of Agriculture (MoA) was directed to work with industry stakeholder groups to create new regulations within existing legislation to replace the HCPA with an industry-led and industry-administered solution if industry supports the retention of a horned cattle fee in some form. Earlier this summer the MoA presented industry stakeholder groups with four options to consider. Three options were for continuing the practice. A fourth option was allowing the repeal to be the end of horned cattle penalties in Saskatchewan.

The most practical option for the continued collection of a horned fee is to contract Livestock Services of Saskatchewan (LSS) to continue inspecting and collecting the fee as they currently do for the MoA. LSS has the legal authority through *The Animal Identification Act* and *The Animal Products Act* to enter into third party agreements to provide services such as the collection of the special horned cattle fee. LSS has expressed interest in continuing to provide the ongoing collection and administrative services of the proposed special assessment fee. Similar to the process of establishing a fee for brand inspection, LSS reviewed costs associated with the provision of service and determined that it needed to charge a fee of $50,850 in 2015/2016 for this service based on it taking 1.5% of brand inspector's time. LSS estimates an inflation increase of 1.5% for 2016/2017 if the current level of service was continued.

The removal of horns in beef cattle is done to prevent injuries of other animals or workers and to minimize carcass injuries or bruising due to horns. Preventing the need for horn removal through genetic selection is recommended in the *Code of Practice for the Care and Handling of Beef Cattle* with further requirements on how to actually dehorn/disbud when horns are present. Following the Code of Practice as it relates to animal welfare and safe livestock handling are considered important for maintaining the social license of the beef industry.

If horned cattle penalties are to continue it is proposed that the fee collected by LSS would be $10 per head. Of this amount, the cost of the physical inspection and collection is $3.44 (based upon an estimate of 15,000 animals), and education and awareness initiatives to be $100,000, or $6.67 per head, for a total of $10.11, which is then rounded down to the nearest dollar for ease of accounting. It is anticipated that the horned cattle numbers would decline over time, resulting in the inspection and collection costs taking an ever-increasing portion of the $10, necessitating decreased education and awareness activities (as will be appropriate if numbers are declining). When the number of animals declines to less than cost-recovery at the $10 per head, the necessity of the fee will be re-examined. The funds generated from this horned cattle levy that are surplus to the cost of collection will be managed by LSS.

Next Steps

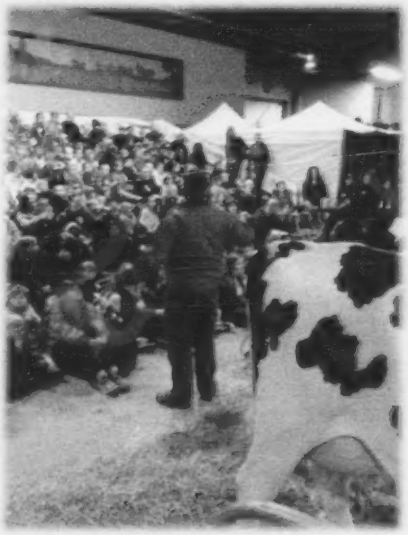
If industry stakeholder groups are unable to reach a consensus on the development of a new industry-led and industry-administered solution to retain a horned cattle fee by March 31, 2017 the collection of the horned fee will be discontinued.

The Saskatchewan Stock Growers Association and SaskMilk have been working collaboratively for the past two years to advocate for the retention of a horned fee in SK. We would appreciate the support of all SaskMilk member's at the upcoming Saskatchewan Cattlemen's Association (SCA) AGM on January 25th in Regina during the Saskatchewan Beef Industry Conference. During the afternoon resolution session the SCA will be discussing and debating a resolution to determine their position on the future of a horned fee in SK.

CANADIAN WESTERN Agribition

The milking demonstrations were a huge success and drew a standing room only crowd.

SaskMilk wishes to thank the following volunteers who donated their time to setup, take down and man the milking display throughout the week.



Thanks to: Jen Barrett, Denise Coghill, Ian Crosbie, Bob Crowe, Calvin Dovell, Travis Ell, Ryan Ell, Michael Flaman, Kenton Lindenbach, Brian Lindenbach, Luc Lindenbach, Adam Lindenbach, Michael Lovich, Dustin Mainil, Tabitha Mainil, Branden Mainil, Dalton Mainil, Lyle Pretty, Austin Schaeffer, Cathy Schaeffer, Jennifer Strudwick, Dale Strudwick, Keri Vanderwielen and Lisa Wourms.

Cows were provided by: Benbie Holsteins, Caron; Lovholm Holsteins, Balgonie; Ronleen Holsteins, Vibank and Robella Holsteins, Balgonie.

Dairy concentrate donated by: Rebel Nutrition Inc.

DAIRY INFO DAY

JANUARY 26, 2017 BRIAN KING CENTRE, WARMAN

Sixth Annual Dairy Info Day

Thursday January 26, 2017
Brian King Centre, Warman, SK

9:00 Registration and Coffee
9:30 Welcome and opening comments by Mel Foth, Chair of the Board, SaskMilk and Andrew Van Kessel, Head Animal and Poultry Science

Dairy Advisory Board and Rayner Dairy Research and Teaching Facility
9:40 Report from Dairy Advisory Board - Jack Ford
9:45 Report on Rayner operations – Morgan Hobin

Ergot and Fusarium
9:55 Trends in fusarium and ergot presence in feed grains and practical implications – Barry Blakley
10:25 Update on toxicity of ergot and fusarium for animals and humans – Natacha Hogan

Calf Management
10:45 Gut development in the calf – pre- weaning vs post weaning - Michael Steele
11:15 Management of heifers for growth and reproduction – Greg Penner
11:45 Use of automated calf feeders – Michael Steele

12:15 – 1:00 Lunch provided by SaskMilk

Implications of Carbon Tax?
1:00 Carbon credits - Tristan Skolrud, Agricultural and Resource Economics

Short Topics in Health, Reproduction, Welfare and Feeding Management
1:20 New concept in treatment of mastitis infections in dairy cattle - Meena Sakharkar
1:35 Long term lactation length trial at Rayner – Greg Penner
1:55 Calf disease protocols: diarrhea and vaccination – Chris Luby
2:10 Synchronizing heifers- Dinesh Dadharwal
2:25 Problems with low milk butterfat test – Tim Mutsvangwa

2:40 **General Discussion and Questions**
2:55 **Closing comments -** Jack Ford

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED SO THAT WE CAN PROVIDE LUNCH. YOU CAN REGISTER BY EMAILING info@saskmilk.ca (subject line: Dairy Info Day) or calling 306-949-6999

Dairy Farm Customer Service Representative

CanWest DHI is currently accepting applications for a part time on farm Customer Service Representative in the Greater Regina area of Saskatchewan.

Responsibilities include daily farm visits for the collection of data, sampling of milk from cows in DHI herds and promotion of Dairy Herd Improvement.

Applicants should have knowledge of the Dairy Industry, excellent interpersonal and computer skills, with high-speed internet access at home. A degree/diploma in agriculture would be an asset. This position may require occasional heavy lifting of up to 75 lbs.

Please submit a cover letter and resumé with an email subject line
'Greater Regina SK - CSR' to hr@canwestdhi.com by January 9th, 2017.
Only successful candidates for an interview will be contacted. NO AGENCIES PLEASE.

TRACEABILITY - NLID TAGS

For farms that currently use herd management tags and want to switch over to using NLID tags here is some important information:

You can order tags by:

1. Online through your HAC web account
2. Calling NLID at 1-877-771-6543
3. Print and complete the NLID Order form and mail/fax back to:
    - NLID
    - Box 2065
    - Brantford, Ontario
    - N3T 5W5
    - Fax: 519-756-3502

You do not need to be a Holstein Canada member in order to order tags but you will need to set up an account. There are a variety of tag options to choose from. Talk to the customer service representative to determine the tag that will best suit your farm.
Remember that effective Sept 2017 it will be a requirement that heifer calves are tagged using NLID tags.
If you have questions or require further information contact Deb Haupstein at:
deb.haupstein@saskmilk.ca 306-721-9486

By Dr. Kelly Barratt, DVM

INS AND OUTS OF *LIVESTOCK TRACEABILITY*

What dairy producers need to know about implementing proAction's traceability module

Tracing food products from farm to plate is an important part of building trust with our customers. In Canada, we are able to trace milk from farm to consumer. However, our current livestock traceability system is not yet complete.

The federal government regulates livestock movement throughout Canada—from the farm of origin, along the route an animal travelled throughout its life, to its final destination. Upcoming regulation changes to improve this system will apply to the dairy industry, as well as all livestock commodities.

Producers will benefit from a more complete traceability system because it will allow the industry to quickly respond to and mitigate the impact of animal health emergencies, such as disease outbreaks.

On a global scale, implementing a more rigorous traceability system will satisfy our trading partners' concerns, as well as help keep current and future market opportunities open.

The key pillars of the livestock traceability program are as follows:

PREMISES IDENTIFICATION

"Premises" is any parcel of land where animals, plants or food are grown, kept, assembled or disposed. A premises identification (PID) number is a permanent, unique identifier, assigned by the provincial government to a premise and used to link livestock to land locations.

All dairy producers in Ontario have a PID number. It can be found by logging onto the producer dashboard on the www.milk.org website (upper right hand corner of the page).

ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION

According to proAction's livestock traceability module, all dairy calves born on or after Sept. 1, 2017 must be identified with a dual set of approved National Livestock Identification for Dairy (NLID) tags. The approved tag set consists of two tags—a visual panel tag and a radio frequency (RFID) button tag, each bearing the same lifetime, unique identification number. One tag must appear in each ear at all times.

Animals that are destined for the beef industry may be identified with a yellow, single RFID-approved beef ear tag. There are several benefits to dual tagging with NLID tags. It enhances visual recognition of animals for herd management, harmonizes herd management ID systems for dairy nationwide, ensures a back-up in case of tag loss and provides a unique number for each animal for its entire life.

» NATIONAL LIVESTOCK Identification for Dairy (NLID) tags consists of two tags—a visual panel tag and a radio frequency (RFID) button tag. *Photo courtesy of Holstein Canada*

ANIMAL MOVEMENT

The risk of introducing or spreading disease to a farm increases when animal movement occurs. This movement could be between farms or other facilities, such as auction barns, cattle shows and assembly yards. Keeping track of when animals are born, move between premises, are imported-exported or die are key pieces of information that can be used to trace livestock throughout their lives.

Dairy farmers will be responsible for recording and reporting information about animal births, animal move-ins (including import), animal exports and tag retirements as part of the proAction traceability program requirements. With respect to animal movements, while farmers are able to record and report all animal movements, only the move-ins are required to be recorded and reported. This is because the location the animal is going to, such as auction barn, will be responsible for reporting the animal move-in when it arrives at that premise as part of the federal regulation.

That being said, animals exported to another country are required to be reported to the database since the animal will be leaving the Canadian traceability system. Also, ani-

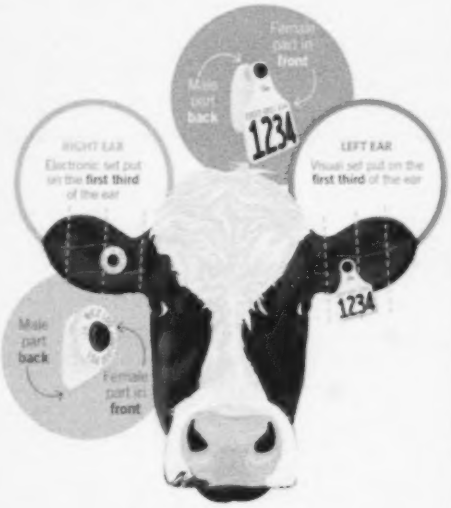
Dr. Kelly Barratt
is a large animal veterinarian at Heartland Veterinary Services in Listowel, Ont. and DFO's assurance programs analyst.

mals that die and remain on the premise for disposal also need to be reported as a "tag retirement" since the animal has left the Canadian traceability system and is remaining at the last known premise. Animals that die and are picked up by a deadstock service provider will be reported by that service provider as a "move-in" once the carcass has been transported.

BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

The Canadian Cattle Identification Agency (CCIA) developed a central database called the Canadian Livestock Tracking System (CLTS). This database serves as the hub for Canadian cattle traceability information, including tag activation, animal move-ins and tag retirements. Dairy farmers must report the required information to this database within the timeframes outlined.

It is accessible online at www.canadaid.ca. To help make reporting easier, a smartphone application has also been developed called "CLTS MOBO." Submitting information online is currently the only method of reporting. However, the agency is investigating other ways third-parties may be able to assist producers in meeting this program requirement.


Female part in front
Male part back
1234
RIGHT EAR
Electronic set put on the first third of the ear
LEFT EAR
Visual set put on the first third of the ear
1234
Male part back
Female part in front

AS PART of proAction's livestock traceability module, all dairy calves born on or after Sept. 1, 2017 must have a dual set of approved National Livestock Identification for Dairy (NLID) tags.

TIPS FOR TRACEABILITY IMPLEMENTATION:

- Look up your premises ID number and post it in an easy spot for quick reference, such as your treatment record book, on the wall in the milkhouse or in your smartphone;
- Pick one day a week and designate it a "traceability reporting day" for all information that needs to be recorded and reported to the CLTS website. This way, it becomes habit and you will be less likely to forget. If you send calves to an auction barn and the sale is on Tuesday, perhaps Monday would be an ideal day to report birth information for calves born in the last week before they leave the farm;
- Match official tag ID with herd management ID. For example, use the 15-digit NLID number as the animal ID number for all your records. This will harmonize record-keeping on farm and third-party advisers, such as DHI, Holstein Canada and your veterinarian. It will also make reporting to the CLTS database easier;
- If an animal loses a tag, have it replaced as soon as possible with the same unique number to ensure uninterrupted individual animal identification. NLID provides replacement tags with the same unique, lifetime number free of charge when they are lost through normal wear and tear.

Heather Holme
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The article first appeared in Milk Producer's monthly proAction column in the September 2016 edition.

COMPONENT AND QUALITY TESTING

As everyone is aware, every pickup testing started November 1.

EVERY pickup is being tested for:

- Components- fat, protein and other solids
- Somatic cells (SCC)
- Freezing point (FPD)
- Milk urea nitrogen (MUN)

Samples that are <= 2 days old are tested for IBC (Individual Bacteria Count).
This means that you should receive at least two IBC tests during a week.

There have been questions about the delay in receiving results. Please keep in mind that samples picked up from Thursday to Sunday are not shipped until Monday. This means that results for these samples are not available until Tuesday.

Effective April 1, 2017 we will no longer be faxing out results to those producers without internet access.

Please contact: Deb Haupstein deb.haupstein@saskmilk.ca **306-721-9486 if you have any questions or concerns.**

2015 Quality Awards

1. Highest Composite BCA Cow 2015
   Chermel Iota Marnie
   Comp. BCA 405.7
   Foth Ventures Ltd, Hague, SK

2. Highest Composite BCA Herd 2015
   Rynview Holsteins
   Saskatoon, SK
   Comp. BCA 295.0

3. Lowest Log Average Somatic Cell Count

   Artland Dairies Inc. SCC 86,239
   Marsden, SK

4. Lowest Log Average Individual Bacteria Count (IBC)
   Fox Valley Farming Co. Ltd. IBC 8,011
   Fox Valley, SK

5. Lowest Combined Log Avg IBC and SCC (3/4 IBC, 1/4 SCC)

   Eatonia Hutterian Brethren Inc.
   Eatonia, SK

From DFC this month…

A REVISION OF *CANADA'S FOOD GUIDE*

Canada's Food Guide is an important tool on which many nutrition and health educational programs, policies and resources are based. Last month, Health Canada announced the start of the
Food Guide's revision process. Consultations aiming to gain a better understanding of Canadians' expectations regarding its content were held at the beginning of December. Registered dietitians from Dairy Farmers of Canada (DFC) and provincial dairy organisations took part in these meetings. Additionally, with the above-mentioned aim in mind, Health Canada conducted an online survey to gather comments from the general public, health professionals and organizations.

The future Food Guide will be based on scientific evidence drawn from a report published by Health Canada in October entitled *2015 Evidence Review for Dietary Guidance: Technical Report*. Among other conclusions, it states the following:

- Canadians do not get enough foods from the Milk and Alternatives group.
- Six out of the eight nutrients that Canadians do not get enough of are found in dairy products: calcium, magnesium, zinc, vitamin A, vitamin D, and potassium.
- Dietary patterns characterized by a higher consumption of vegetables, fruits, whole grains, low-fat dairy, and seafood as well as a lower consumption of red and processed meats, refined grains and sugar-sweetened foods and beverages are associated with positive cardiovascular disease outcomes.

Despite the fact that dairy products are generally portrayed in a favourable light in this report, the following issues will have to be monitored closely during the revision process:

- The interest in plant-based beverages (e.g., soy beverages);
- The emphasis placed on sugar, saturated fat and sodium;
- The impact of diet on the environment.

WANTED: HOLSTEIN BULL CALVES AND STEERS

CONSISTENT TWICE A WEEK BABY CALF PICK-UP WITH PROMPT PAYMENT
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Agriculture Literacy March 1st – 31st, 2017

Do cows sleep inside?
What do pigs eat?
How many kernels of wheat are in a loaf of bread?

Kids today have questions about farming – help us answer them!

Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month is an initiative of Agriculture in the Classroom Canada to raise student awareness about Canadian agriculture by providing positive and realistic messages from the industry and producers.

Agriculture in the Classroom Saskatchewan (AITC-SK) helps students **learn** about, **connect** with, and **understand** agriculture. We invite anyone involved in agriculture to participate in Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month. Volunteers are needed to spend 45 minutes in a grade 3-5 classroom to share your passion and personal agriculture story.

Last year, over 4000 students learned more about agriculture by participating in Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month – help us reach even more students this year!

Register to visit a classroom today at www.aitc.sk.ca or contact Gabrielle Edwards at gedwards@aitc.sk.ca for more information.

2017 CALM is Proudly Sponsored by:

Farm Credit Canada

Agriculture in the Classroom
Connecting Kids and Agriculture

Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month

SaskMilk in the Community…

Sparks Fly program- Hugh Cairns school special acknowledgment!

Use MUN to Monitor Rumen Function

Dr. Ewen Ferguson, Veterinarian, CanWest DHI

Adapted in part from an article in the Milk Producer magazine, June 2016

Bulk tank and DHI cow Milk Urea Nitrogen (MUN) milk test results are widely available across Canada. MUN is a useful tool to help assess the protein and energy balance of dairy cows.

TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- Protein and energy balance is important for good rumen function
- MUN is an easy, convenient and affordable way to monitor the protein-energy balance in the rumen
- Target MUN values should be neither too high, nor too low (range of 8-12 mg/dl)
- Higher or lower values may indicate opportunities
- Monitor over time, don't react too quickly to small variation
- Tank and cow MUN complement each other
- Work with your advisor team and take advantage of the information

What is MUN and what does it mean?

When cows consume protein, the rumen bugs degrade the nitrogen from the protein into ammonia. Rumen bugs also need to have an energy supply (fermentable carbohydrates) to capture the ammonia. It is the balance of protein and energy (carbohydrates) that allows the rumen bugs to make microbial protein and amino acids which are used for milk production.

Problems occur when there is an imbalance of rumen available protein and carbohydrate. Protein, in excess of energy, creates too much ammonia. A high concentration of ammonia is toxic to body tissues. Excess ammonia is absorbed through the rumen wall, enters the blood stream and is transported to the liver where it is converted to urea. Urea then enters the blood stream and is excreted in urine or milk.

MUN is the measure of the level of urea in the milk (which has been shown to correlate well to the blood urea levels) and therefore a very easy, convenient and affordable way to monitor the protein-energy balance in the rumen.

MUN as a Feed Management Tool

Diet has a large effect on MUN. Grain sources, types of processing and the level of fermentation are factors affecting the energy side of the equation, while moisture, solubility and protein content of the diet affect the protein availability. Adequate, effective fibre

Continued

in the rumen is hugely important to ensure a properly functional rumen, which allows the rumen bugs to properly process the energy and protein sources available to them.

What should MUN levels be?

Given that MUN is an indication of the protein-energy balance, the ideal values are in a range that is neither too high, nor too low.

The traditional industry standard MUN target was in the 10-14 mg/dl range. However, in recent years, with today's modern ration balancing, there has been a trend towards lower protein being fed, resulting in a lowering of target MUN values. The industry is more commonly seeing values between 8-12 mg/dl (Patton 2014).

Herds with high MUN values (14-16 mg/dl or higher) have excess urea in their system. This may be the result of too much protein in the diet, but more likely the result of an imbalance of rumen available protein and rumen available carbohydrate (energy). Excesses of protein are usually not a result of protein (supplement) that you purchased, but rather the result of what is in your silo (high quality, home grown forages). The challenge/ opportunity is to find the appropriate energy sources to take advantage of the high quality forage. Talk to your feed consultant.

There are variations in MUN based on season, stage of lactation and breeds, just to name a few. So establishing a baseline of MUN values at the herd and group level is important.

Why should I bother with MUN?

High urea costs your herd money. Possibly protein is in excess or at the very least not in balance with energy. There is an energy cost to the cow to excrete excess urea as well as milk losses, and reproduction losses at very high urea levels. There is also an environmental cost as cows with high urea put more nitrogen into the environment.

We also need to consider the cost of low urea values... are we under-feeding protein and leaving some milk on the table?

Bulk Tank vs Cow MUN

Routine bulk tank MUN will help alert you to any changes that might be occurring within the herd. MUN fluctuations often occur when feed changes are made. Tank MUN will allow you to develop a baseline for your herd. In spite of getting daily reports, be careful to not react daily—it may take several days for the cow (rumen) to adjust to feed changes, but if you see a sustained trend that is outside of the norm for your herd, seek advice from your feed consultant.

The DHI monthly MUN report is a perfect complement to the tank info. The issue with an average is that it is an average. If the distribution of MUN values within a herd is between 6 mg/dl and 16 mg/dl, the herd MUN average will be 11 mg/dl. This is a very good average, but doesn't address the cows or group of cows that are causing problems at either end of the scale.

The DHI MUN report uses a Scatter-graph that shows the distribution of every cow. The report shows the cows sitting outside of the acceptable range of MUN values. MUN values are also reported by groups of cows based on days in milk, as well as by parity. MUN trends over the last two years are also reported and can indicate seasonal variation.

It is for these reasons that it is recommended to use both tools to monitor the rumen health of your herd. Use the tank MUN results to ensure that the herd average is within the parameters you have set for your herd. Use the DHI monthly results to determine if the average reflects the variation occurring within your herd based on season, parity, stage of lactation or feeding groups.

Bulk tank and cow MUN are great tools that complement each other. Work with your advisor team and take advantage of the information.

To find out more about MUN, talk to your advisor, DHI staff, or call CanWest DHI at 1-800-549-4373.

2016 SASKATCHEWAN DAIRY CONFERENCE

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Alta

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Dairysmart

Landmark Feeds

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Who should I call?

Who at the SaskMilk office should producers call? Here's a handy guide!

For…	*Call…*	*At…*
➢ Sponsorship Requests ➢ Donation Requests ➢ Dairyanna's Costume and Events	Anita Medl	306-721-9483
➢ School Milk Program ➢ Nutrition Resource Ordering	Bev Eckert	306-721-9490
➢ Quota Exchange and Private Quota Transfers ➢ Transfer Credits ➢ Security Applications ➢ Estimates for production ➢ Name Changes ➢ Designation of Signing Authority ➢ Monthly production numbers for producers ➢ Producer information for lending institutions ➢ Passwords for quota management sheet access	Bev Solie	306-721-9488
➢ Dairy Conference	Darlene Weighill	306-721-9491
➢ On Farm- licensing, facilities, equipment, driveways, yards, animal care ➢ Lab testing results ➢ Bulk truck drivers- licensing, complaints/issues ➢ Bulk tank calibrations ➢ Pro Action- Food Safety (CQM), Animal Care, Traceability, Biosecurity, Environment	Deb Haupstein	306-721-9486
➢ Producer statements ➢ Banking info for direct deposit of milk pay ➢ Milk pick-up issues –variances in volumes, planning to quit shipping, etc.	Dianne Cardinal	306-721-9489
➢ Monthly milk prices paid to producers ➢ Provincial & National production updates	Doug Miller	306-721-9485
➢ Adding, editing information on Producer Transfer Credit List ➢ Newsletter advertising ➢ Updating email/fax information for producer notices/send outs	Jenn Buehler	306-721-9492
➢ Media or news stories *or* if you have been contacted by any media agency or reporter ➢ Social media enquiries (twitter etc.) ➢ Trade agreements, international trade updates ➢ DEAP policy/program enquiries ➢ Website enquiries	Joy Smith	306-721-9482

QUOTA EXCHANGE

The market-clearing price established for the December 2016 Quota Exchange was **$32,000.00**

The next Quota Exchange will be held on **January 15, 2017**. All offers to sell and bids to purchase quota through the Quota Exchange must be received at the SaskMilk office by midnight, **January 6, 2017**. SaskMilk recommends that offers and bids be submitted well in advance of the deadline date to ensure adequate time for corrections, if necessary.

When making bids on the Quota Exchange, the price on offers to sell quota is the minimum price that the producer is prepared to accept for that quota. Only if the market-clearing price is equal to or greater than the producer's minimum price will that producer qualify for participation in the Exchange. Conversely, the price on offers to purchase quota is the maximum price that the producer is prepared to pay for that quota. Only if the market-clearing price is equal to or less than the producer's maximum price will that producer qualify for participation in the Exchange. The clearing price is set at the price where the smallest difference exists between the accumulated volume offered for sale and the accumulated volume bid to purchase. The results of the Quota Exchange are outlined in the following Table.

DECEMBER 2016 QUOTA EXCHANGE RESULTS SUMMARY

Market Clearing Price per kilogram of butterfat	**$ 32,000.00**
Daily Kilograms offered to Purchase	**137.50**
Kilograms offered to Sell	**53.47**
Kilograms sold	**53.47**
Number of Producers	
- offered to purchase	**9**
- purchased quota	**3**
- offered to sell	**8**
- sold quota	**8**

DECEMBER 2016 QUOTA EXCHANGE CLEARING PRICE RESULTS

Price ($/daily kg b.f.)	No. of Sellers	Cumulative Sellers	Daily Kgs b.f. offered for sale	Cumulative sales	Cumulative Sales less Cumulative purchases	Cumulative purchases	Daily Kgs b.f. offered to purchase	Cumulative bidders	No. of buyers
$27,015.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	-137.50	137.50	20.00	9	1
$28,115.00	0	0	0.00	0.00	-117.50	117.50	20.00	8	1
$28,900.00	1	1	5.00	5.00	-92.50	97.50	0.00	7	0
$29,000.00	1	2	3.00	8.00	-89.50	97.50	0.00	7	0
$29,500.00	0	2	0.00	8.00	-89.50	97.50	15.00	7	1
$30,000.00	3	5	12.47	20.47	-62.03	82.50	0.90	6	1
$31,000.00	0	5	0.00	20.47	-61.13	81.60	18.10	5	1
$31,200.00	0	5	0.00	20.47	-43.03	63.50	10.00	4	1
$32,000.00	**3**	**8**	**33.00**	**53.47**	**-0.03**	**53.50**	**22.00**	**3**	**1**
$33,000.00	0	8	0.00	53.47	21.97	31.50	31.50	2	2

*** Please contact Bev Solie at 306-949-6999 for inquiries dealing with quota management sheets, the Quota Exchange, for transfer credits, or with any other quota transactions.**

TRANSFER CREDIT SUMMARY REPORT

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS TRANSFER IN	# OF PRODUCERS TRANSFER OUT	TOTAL KGS BUTTERFAT
November	25	19	29,314
December	19	21	26,281
January, 2016	15	12	24,251
February	21	22	16,504
March	13	11	9,444
April	21	19	21,711
May	16	12	12,695
June	13	11	16,170
July	23	18	19,214
August	19	17	17,923
September	21	21	26,026
October	20	20	29,340
November	21	20	20,858

PRIVATE TRANSFERS PROCESSED

MONTH	DAILY KILOGRAMS
Dec	45.00
Jan-2016	0.00
Feb	1.4
Mar	71.91
Apr	83.55
May	183.00
Jun	123.34
Jul	63.56
Aug	10.00
Sept	62.9
Oct	4.00
Nov	254.46

OVER QUOTA (OVER 5 DAYS) REPORT BY MONTH

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS	KGS BUTTERFAT
November	11	2,898
December	15	2,926
January, 2016	13	5,187
February	15	4,786
March	26	5,829
April	21	3,877
May	16	3,183
June	13	1,559
July	11	604
August	5	556
September	2	185
October	2	150
November	2	267

SUMMARY REPORT OF CREDITS November, 2016 – 161 PRODUCERS

DAYS	# OF PRODUCERS	POSITIVE CREDITS ACCUMULATED (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
+ 5	2	1,504
0 to + 5	32	8,518
TOTAL	34	10,022
DAYS	**# OF PRODUCERS**	**NEGATIVE CREDITS ACCUMULATED (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)**
-15	2	-3,017
-10 to -15	20	-49,686
-5 to -10	57	-77,266
0 to -5	48	-18,934
TOTAL	127	-148,903

LOST OPPORTUNITY REPORT

MONTH	# OF PRODUCERS	LOST OPPORTUNITY (KGS OF BUTTERFAT)
November 2016	2	911
October 2016	4	1,049
September 2016	4	1,656
August 2016	2	856
July 2016	6	1,676
June 2016	6	2,072
May 2016	6	2,349
April 2016	2	625
March 2016	6	3,240
February 2016	5	2,995
January 2016	10	5,285
December 2015	11	3,732
November 2015	11	4,616

WEIGHTED AVERAGE COMPONENT TESTS & PRICES November, 2016

Components	Average Test	Price per kilogram Class 1 to 5
Butterfat	4.1246	11.472993
Protein	3.3932	8.472975
Other Solids	5.6979	1.261450

Based on the average component tests for the province, the average price received was **$83.2602** per hectolitre. **The average butterfat price received per kilogram was $20.18**

SASKATCHEWAN MILK POOL RESULTS November 2016

Milk Sale Revenue	$ 15,576,803.50
Western Milk Pool	$ 1,794,206.10
Plant of Last Resort Service	$ (57,213.46)
Total Pool Value	**$ 17,313,796.14**

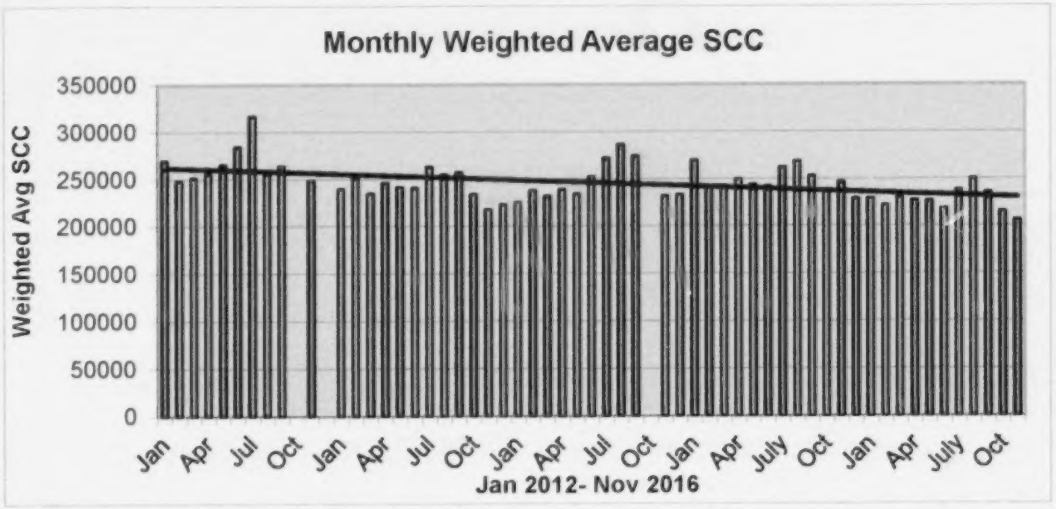
In November, Saskatchewan had a monthly CDC allocation of **878,208 kilograms** of butterfat. In the month of November, Saskatchewan production was **-21,156** of butterfat **under** and cumulatively **under** by **-303,255 kilograms** of butterfat. On a percentage basis, Saskatchewan is **-2.91%*** below our CDC allocation flexibility limits based on the Continuous Quota model. The -1.50% lower flexibility limit is in effect.

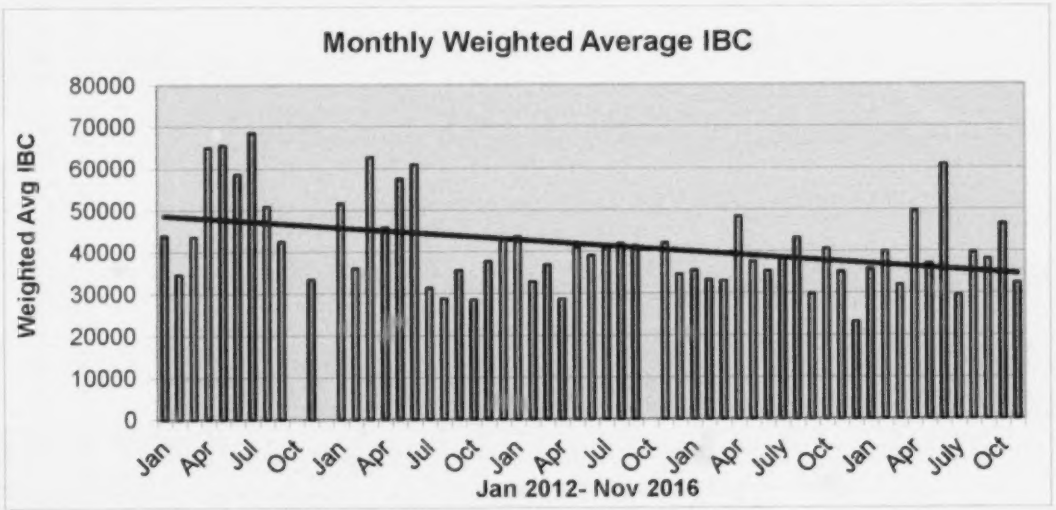
	(1) Monthly Total Production Kgs bf	(2) Total Monthly CDC Quota Allocation Kgs bf	(3) Monthly Over or (Under) Production Kgs bf col. 1 – 2 = 3	(4) Lower Flexibility Limit **(1.5%)** Kgs bf col. 9 * -1.5%	(5) Upper Flexibility Limit **1.0%** Kgs bf col. 9 *1.0%	(6) Cumulative Over or (Under) Production with limits Kgs bf	(7) Cumulative Over or (Under) Production with limits in - % col. 6 / 9	(8) Over Quota or (Lost Production Opportunity) Kgs bf	(9) Rolling 12 Month Total Quota Kgs bf
Nov-15	822,399	817,226	5,173	(145,324)	48,441	**(44,269)**	**-0.46%**	0	9,688,278
Dec-15[1]	864,380	962,297	(97,917)	(147,083)	49,028	**(142,067)**	**-1.45%**	0	9,805,509
Jan-16	872,836	873,832	(996)	(148,058)	49,353	**(143,063)**	**-1.45%**	0	9,870,562
Feb-16	811,774	805,091	6,683	(148,960)	49,653	**(136,490)**	**-1.37%**	0	9,930,653
Mar-16	872,863	851,885	20,978	(149,485)	49,828	**(115,512)**	**-1.16%**	0	9,965,640
Apr-16	841,272	817,247	24,025	(149,712)	49,904	**(91,487)**	**-0.92%**	0	9,980,799
May-16	860,608	850,625	9,983	(150,289)	50,096	**(81,504)**	**-0.81%**	0	10,019,240
Jun-16	826,609	849,222	(22,613)	(151,158)	50,386	**(104,116)**	**-1.03%**	0	10,077,201
Jul-16	845,806	868,218	(22,412)	(152,058)	50,686	**(126,591)**	**-1.25%**	0	10,137,192
Aug-16	825,798	882,075	(56,277)	(204,229)	51,057	**(153,172)**	**-1.79%***	0	10,211,472
Sept-16	827,969	873,806	(45,837)	(308,055)	51,343	**(228,896)**	**-2.23%***	0	10,268,507
Oct-16	868,097	921,301	(53,204)	(414,923)	51,865	**(282,099)**	**-2.72%***	0	10,373,069
Nov-16	857,052	878,208	(21,156)	(417,367)	52,171	**(303,255)**	**-2.91%***	0	10,434,170

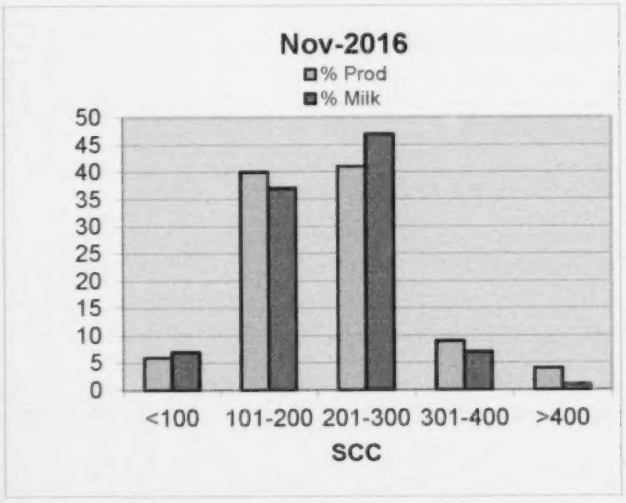
(1) Monthly Production in Saskatchewan
(2) Total Monthly Quota = Class 1 sales + Monthly MSQ + Carry Forward
(3) Difference between the monthly production (1) and the total monthly quota (2)
(4) The Lower Flexibility Limit is -1.5% of Rolling 12 Month Total Quota (9)
(5) The Upper Flexibility Limit is 1.0% of Rolling 12 Month Total Quota (9)
(6) Previous Month Cumulative Over or (Under) Production + Current Monthly Over or (Under) Production (capped at lower or upper limit if applicable)
(7) Equal to Column (6) expressed as a percentage basis within the flexibility limits
(8) Over Quota or (Lost production opportunity) outside of flexibility limits
(9) Total Monthly CDC Quota Allocation for the previous 12 months

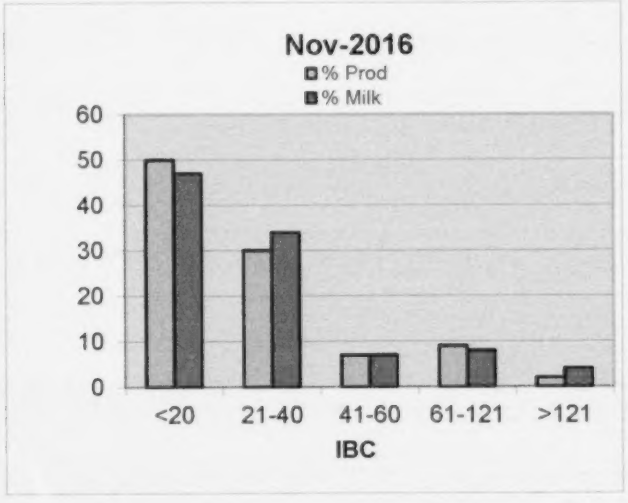
[1] At the CMSMC meeting a temporary 3% Growth Allowance has been added as of Dec 2015.
*SK is below -1.50% and will not be assessed a penalty. The CMSMC motion July, 28, 2016, has waived any pool level penalties until February 2017.

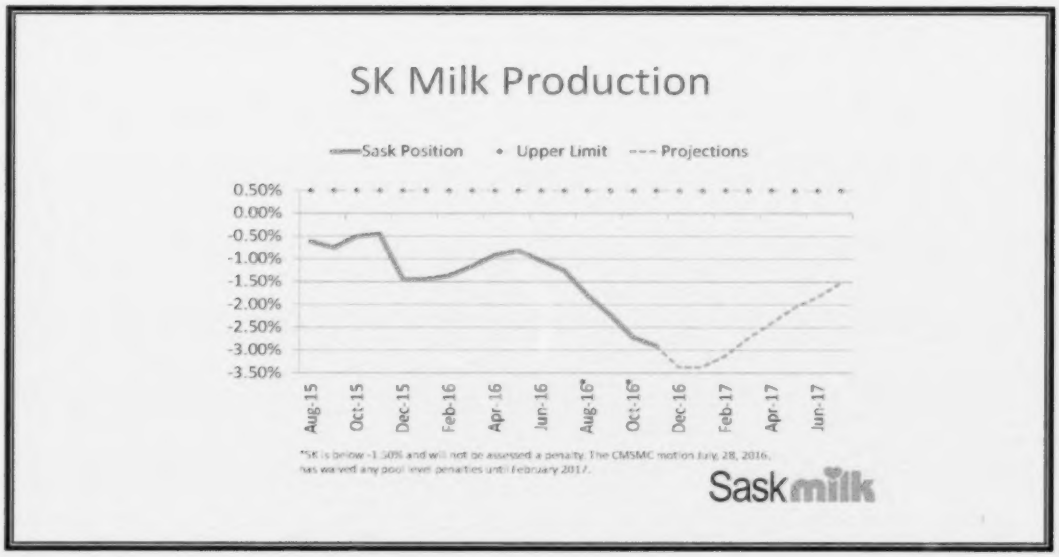
PROVINCIAL WEIGHTED AVERAGES











INHIBITOR TEST STATIONS

SaskMilk has established a number of inhibitor test stations around the province. Producers needing to check their bulk tanks for inhibitors can take a sample to the test station closest to their location.

Charm test strips are available to test for:
Beta-Lactams- the Charm 3 SL3 Beta Lactam test strip tests for amoxicillin, ampicillin, ceftiofur, cephapirin, cloxacillin, and penicillin G

Tetracyclines- the Charm Tetracycline test strip tests for chlortetracycline, oxytetracycline and tetracycline.

Sulfas- the Charm Sulfa test strip tests for sulfacetamide, sulfachlorpyridazine, sulfadiazine, sulfadimethoxine, sulfadoxine, sulfamethoxypyridazine, sulfamerazine, sulfamethazine, sulfamethoxazole, sulfamethoxazole, sulfamethoxypyridazine, sulfapyridine, sulfaquinoxaline, sulfathiazole, and sulfisoxazole.

Test stations are located at the following locations:

1. Swift Current, SK - Agrifoods truck bay - 675 Cheadle Street West
   Office 306-773-1097 or Rodger Ruf 306-741-3261
2. Harris, SK - Cairnside Farm – Wes Cairns 306-656-4807
3. Star City, SK - Star City Colony - Reuben Tschetter 306-921-9381
4. Grenfell, SK - Jim Ross 306-697-2232
5. Yorkton, SK - Ford Dairy Farms Inc. - Bud and Margaret Ford 306-782-7240
6. Saskatoon, SK – Agrifoods Truck Bay - east of the Saputo plant receiving bay
   lead hand - Jim or Clint 306-664-0202 after hours: 306-668-8135

Charm tests strips and Charm testers are now available for purchase through SaskMilk. Agrifoods is now carrying SNAP test kits for tetracyclines as well as beta lactams.

For further information you can contact: Deb Haupstein 306-721-9486

Code of Practice

4.8 Milking

Milking should not be a source of stress for cows. Proper milking procedures, gentle handling, calm cows, clean udders and a clean environment contribute to production of quality milk.

RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES

a. implement specific milking routines appropriate to the milking system
b. train milkers and monitor and correct their practices
c. milk cows at regular fixed intervals (e.g., same time each day). Ensure lactating cows are not left un-milked or with overly full udders
d. use recommended preparation, milking, and post-milking procedures
e. achieve a complete milk-out
f. avoid painful or stressful procedures (e.g., injections) in the milking parlor
g. minimize milking and holding times (e.g., maximum one hour) such that time away from feed and water and a comfortable stall is kept to a minimum
h. provide slip-resistant flooring in holding pens and parlors
i. provide adequate lighting for cow movement and worker comfort
j. inspect and maintain milking equipment on a regular schedule
k. clean and sanitize milking equipment and parlors according to Grade A standards
l. implement procedures to identify cows treated with antibiotics
m. prevent contamination of bulk tank milk with milk from treated cows
n. keep complete records
• observe cows for signs of mastitis:
• swelling, inflammation or hardening of the udder
• abnormal milk
• somatic cell count over 200,000

4.9 Hoof Trimming

Claws grow about 1/4in (5-7mm) per month (73). However, the walking surface affects the rate of growth and location of wear. For example, toes wear quickly on sand or very abrasive surfaces. Overgrowth of the heel of the lateral claw of the hind foot is a common finding. Toes tend to wear more slowly because they are harder and heels wear faster since the horn is softer.

Claw trimming is an important tool to prevent and treat lameness and should form part of an overall claw-health program. Each claw must be trimmed to its own 'normal' structure in order to prevent hoof disease (74). Over-trimming is a common error that can cause lameness. Only skilled individuals should trim claws on cattle.

REQUIREMENTS
Feet and claws must be inspected and trimmed as required to minimize lameness.

RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES
a. preferably, trim claws approximately two months before calving to prevent or minimize lameness after calving (70)
b. employ trained claw trimmers. Seek out hoof trimmers that are associated with a professional association (e.g., Hoof Trimmers Association)
c. ensure restraint devices are safe for personnel and cattle
d. refer to Appendix K: Resources for Further Information, for more resources on claw trimming
e. keep complete records.

Federal Budget changes to Capital Property Rules May Affect Quota Transactions and Taxes

Draft legislation was introduced in the 2016 federal budget that could affect quota (on quota sale transactions after December 31, 2016). If your farm has quota with large accrued gains and you may sell soon, there could be a big impact on taxes. Producers should consult with their accountants or tax advice providers to enquire as to how this might affect their farms; the below is a general summary that is not intended to be a substitute for expert advice.

Corporations and Sole Proprietorships:
The cost of quota purchased/acquired after December 31, 2016 will be added to Class 14.1 (a new class of depreciable property). The depreciation rate for this class will be 5% on a declining balance basis). There are transition rules to provide for the transfer of the existing CEC balances to Class 14.1.

Non-Incorporated Farms:
For sole proprietors and individual partnerships there will be no changes to the taxation when the quota is sold. Amounts previously claimed as depreciation that exceed the undepreciated capital cost may have to be reported as income (with conditions), and 50% of the gain would be reported as capital gain and taxed at the individual's tax rate.

Corporations:
When quota is sold, amounts previously claimed as depreciation that exceed the undepreciated capital cost – up to the original cost of the quota - would be reported as income, and 50% reported as capital gain/investment income.

More information can be found here:

http://www.budget.gc.ca/2016/docs/tm-mf/si-rs-en.html#_Toc445892239

under the heading "Eligible Capital Property"

If You Can't Ship It - Test It!

BSE surveillance is still important and every animal tested makes a difference.

Support your cattle industry by having your 4-D (dead, diseased, dying or downer) cattle tested for BSE.

For more information, call the Canadian Food Inspection Agency at 1-877-727-5273.

QUOTA LISTING or CLASSIFIED AD SERVICE

SaskMilk offers a free quota listing service as part of its Newsletter. Anyone wishing to sell or purchase quota and/or cows or miscellaneous dairy equipment is welcome to contact the SaskMilk office at (306) 949-6999. All prices and negotiations will be independent of SaskMilk. **Please note that ads will be posted in two issues and will then be removed unless SaskMilk is notified otherwise.**

Classifieds

Complete robotic milking system with 2 operating Lely A3 Next robots and buffet tank. **Call 604-557-6077**

Artex Y2K floor mount free stalls. Hardware included. Houle hydraulic alleyway scraper system. Ask for pricing. **Call George 306-228-1749**

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